

Compressive Sensing

Dr.-Ing. Ali Bereyhi

Friedrich-Alexander University

`ali.bereyhi@fau.de`

Summer 2022

Where Are We?

We ended up with following results

- The *optimal* approach for sparse recovery is
 ℓ_0 -norm minimization
- For *unique* sparse recovery via the optimal approach at least

$$s \leq M^* \leq 2s$$

samples should be collected

- ℓ_0 -norm minimization is an *NP-hard* problem

It cannot be implemented in practice

Where Are We?

Now, we want to check out

*some **sparse recovery algorithms***

*which can be used in **practice***

Algorithms for Sparse Recovery

Sparse Recovery: *Suboptimal Approaches*

There is a general simple rule

Unlike *optimal* approach, *suboptimal* approaches are not *unique*

*So how shall we choose a *suboptimal* algorithm?*

*There is always a *trade-off* in between*

- *An algorithm might require *less number of measurements**
- *It then probably is computationally *more complex**

*So, it really depends on our *budget*!*

Sparse Recovery: *Suboptimal Approaches*

What are the suboptimal approaches?

*In general, **anyone** can come up with an approach!*

*However, there are popular algorithms with **good trade-off***

- ℓ_1 -Norm Minimization Algorithms
- Greedy Algorithms
- Iterative Thresholding Algorithms
- **AMP-based Algorithms**

We learn the last one in the second part of the lecture

ℓ_1 -Norm Minimization Algorithms

Approximating Optimal Solution via ℓ_1 -Norm

What do we do in this approach?

In a nutshell,

We replace the ℓ_0 -norm with the ℓ_1 -norm

But why should it work fine?

We see it now!

Back to Our First Example

Remember the example in the introductory part

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We showed that the set of all solutions is

$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 - 2u \\ 1 + u \\ u \\ 1 - u \end{bmatrix}$$

Back to Our First Example

Remember the example in the introductory part

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The sparsest solution is the 2-sparse vector \mathbf{x} ($u = 1$)

$$\mathbf{x}(u = 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Back to Our First Example

Remember the example in the introductory part

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This means that $\mathbf{x}(u=1)$

$$\mathbf{x}(u=1) = \operatorname{argmin} \|\mathbf{z}\|_0 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y}$$

Back to Our First Example

Remember the example in the introductory part

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Or equivalently,

$$\mathbf{x}(u=1) = \underset{\mathbf{x}(u) \text{ for } u \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\mathbf{x}(u)\|_0$$

Let's see how $\|\mathbf{x}(u)\|_0$ looks against u

Back to Our First Example

At $u = -1$, $u = 0$ and $u = 1$, $\mathbf{x}(u)$ is

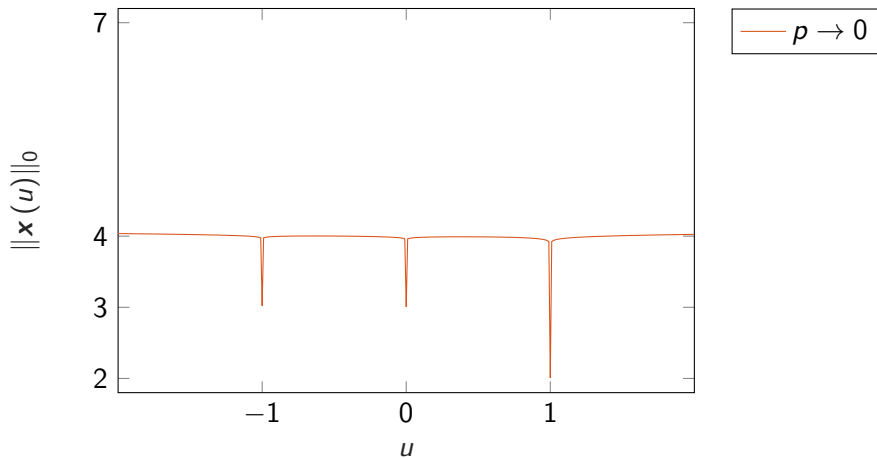
$$\mathbf{x}(u = -1) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}(u = 0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}(u = 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

which means

$$\|\mathbf{x}(u = -1)\|_0 = 3, \quad \|\mathbf{x}(u = 0)\|_0 = 3, \quad \|\mathbf{x}(u = 1)\|_0 = 2$$

For any other choice of u , $\|\mathbf{x}(u)\|_0 = 4$

Back to Our First Example



Back to Our First Example

We know that the key issue is with

ℓ_0 -norm function

So, what if we relax it with an ℓ_p -norm?

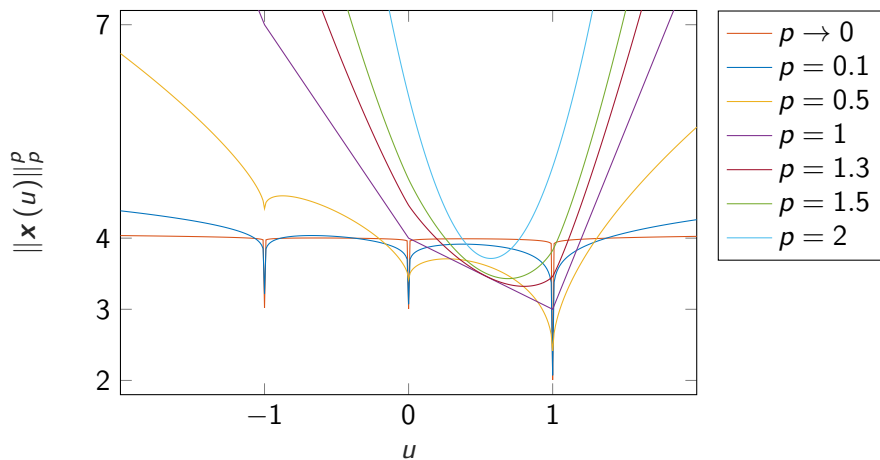
Let's do an experiment: We try to see how does

$$\|\mathbf{x}(u)\|_p^p$$

look like for different choices of p

Relaxation means we replace the problematic part with an *approximation*

Back to Our First Example



Approximating Optimal Solution via ℓ_1 -Norm

From the figure, one can see that

For $0 \leq p \leq 1$ the global minimum occur at the same u

But ...

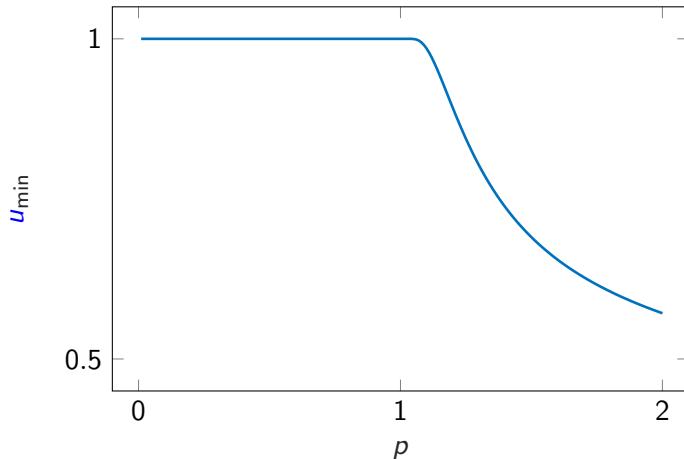
As $p > 1$ the global minimizer starts to move

To see this clearly, let us plot

$$u_{\min} = \operatorname{argmin}_u \|\mathbf{x}(u)\|_p^p$$

against p

Approximating Optimal Solution via ℓ_1 -Norm



Approximating Optimal Solution via ℓ_1 -Norm

This is in fact a general property

ℓ_p -norm minimization recovers a sparse vector for $0 \leq p \leq 1$

What would be then a good choice for relaxation?

- For $0 \leq p \leq 1$, we can recover a sparse vector
- For $p \geq 1$, we deal with convex optimization

Thus, the best choice for relaxation is

ℓ_1 -norm

ℓ_1 -Norm Minimization Algorithms

Section 1: Basis Pursuit Algorithm

Basis Pursuit

Basis Pursuit

Basis pursuit recovers the signal from samples in \mathbf{y} by

$$\min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y}$$

*Although we have seen it **intuitively**, we still want to make sure*

*Basis pursuit recovers a **sparse** signal*

and know what is the sparsity level

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

An Initial Claim

For $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ basis pursuit recovers \mathbf{x}^*

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \operatorname{argmin} \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y}$$

Then, \mathbf{x}^* has *at most* M non-zero elements

To show that this claim is correct consider this reminder

The *kernel* of a *fat* matrix has members other than $\mathbf{0}$

$$\ker \text{ fat } \mathbf{A} \neq \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

Clearly, \mathbf{x}^* satisfies the linear system of equations

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{y} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{A}_S\mathbf{x}_S^* = \mathbf{y}$$

The submatrix \mathbf{A}_S is of size $M \times s$ which is *fat*

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

Since \mathbf{A}_S is *fat*, we can find non-zero $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^s$ such that

$$\mathbf{v} \in \ker \mathbf{A}_S \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{A}_S \mathbf{v} = 0$$

We now construct a new vector $\mathbf{x}^\sharp = \mathbf{x}^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$

$\tilde{\mathbf{v}} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is s -sparse with support S and $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_S = \mathbf{v}$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

Well, clearly we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^\# &= \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}) \\ &= \mathbf{A}_S(\mathbf{x}_S^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_S) = \mathbf{y} + t\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

Now, what about its ℓ_1 -norm?

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

We now determine the ℓ_1 -norm of \mathbf{x}^\sharp

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^\sharp\|_1 &= \|\mathbf{x}^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}\|_1 \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N |x_n^* + t\tilde{v}_n| = \sum_{n \in S} |x_n^* + t\tilde{v}_n|\end{aligned}$$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

We first note that

$$\text{If } |t| < \frac{|\mathbf{x}_n^*|}{|\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n|} \rightsquigarrow |t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n| < |\mathbf{x}_n^*|$$

In this case, the sign of $\mathbf{x}_n^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n$ is same as the sign of \mathbf{x}_n^*

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

Now, we focus on an interval of t in which

$$|t| < \min_{n \in S} \frac{|x_n^*|}{|\tilde{v}_n|} := \theta$$

With $|t| < \theta$, we have $|x_n^* + t\tilde{v}_n| = \text{Sgn}(x_n^*)(x_n^* + t\tilde{v}_n)$ for $n \in S$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

The ℓ_1 -norm of \mathbf{x}^\sharp is hence written for $|t| < \theta$ as

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^\sharp\|_1 &= \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n)(\mathbf{x}_n^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n) \\ &= \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*)(\mathbf{x}_n^* + t\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n)\end{aligned}$$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

The ℓ_1 -norm of \mathbf{x}^\sharp is hence written for $|t| < \theta$ as

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^\sharp\|_1 &= \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) (\mathbf{x}_n^* + t \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n) \\ &= \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) \mathbf{x}_n^* + t \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n\end{aligned}$$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) \mathbf{x}_n^* &= \sum_{n \in S} |\mathbf{x}_n^*| \\ &= \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1\end{aligned}$$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

So, we can write

$$\|\mathbf{x}^\# \|_1 = \|\mathbf{x}^* \|_1 + t \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) \tilde{v}_n$$

for all $|t| \leq \theta$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

Interval $|t| \leq \theta$ always include a real number t_1 such that

$$t_1 \sum_{n \in S} \text{Sgn}(\mathbf{x}_n^*) \tilde{v}_n < 0$$

This means that we can always find \mathbf{x}^\sharp , such that $\|\mathbf{x}^\sharp\|_1 < \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

Let's start with the *opposite* assumption

\mathbf{x}^* has $s > M$ non-zero elements

We show the support of \mathbf{x}^* with S , where $|S| = s$

This is now a *contradiction* with the fact that

\mathbf{x}^* is the global minimizer of ℓ_1 -norm on the feasible set

Our initial claim is thus proven *by contradiction*

Basis Pursuit: *How Sparse is Recovery?*

To avoid the contradiction what do we need?

- First of all \mathbf{x}^* be s -sparse with $s \leq M$
- Secondly, for \mathbf{A} we need to have

$$\ker \mathbf{A}_S = \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

for the recovery support S with $|S| \leq s$

Sparsity of Basis Pursuit Recovery

Basis pursuit always recovers a s -sparse signal with $s \leq M$ and the columns of \mathbf{A}_S are linearly independent

Summary

Up to this point, we have learned that

- *Basis pursuit $\equiv \ell_1$ -norm minimization gives*
Best relaxation of the optimal sparse recovery
- *We can make sure that basis pursuit recovers*
A signal whose sparsity is at most as much as # of samples

Now the question is that

- *How can we implement the basis pursuit algorithm?*

We study it in the next section

Implementing Basis Pursuit Algorithm

Getting Back to Basis Pursuit

Basis Pursuit

Basis pursuit recovers the signal from samples in \mathbf{y} by

$$\min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y}$$

One question which comes to mind

Is basis pursuit, the only relaxation via ℓ_1 -norm?

*We see shortly that the answer is **No!***

Implementing Basis Pursuit Algorithm

Section 1: Alternative Forms of ℓ_1 -Norm Minimization

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

The *linear constraint* in basis pursuit can be translated as

$$\mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y} \iff \mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0} \iff \|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 = 0$$

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

Now, we consider the following *quadratic constraint*

$$\|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta$$

What happens if $\eta \rightarrow 0$?

$$\|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta \iff \|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 = 0 \iff \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

So, we can alternatively solve the following problem and let $\eta \rightarrow 0$

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta$$

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

$$\min \|z\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|Az - y\|_2^2 \leq \eta$$

Attention!

You might think

$\eta \rightarrow 0$ is the only meaningful choice

But, as we see later

*Other choices of η are also useful in **noisy** settings*

Basis Pursuit Denoising

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y}$$

Let us construct a new objective function $F_\lambda(\mathbf{z})$ as below

$$F_\lambda(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|\mathbf{Az} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{z}\|_1$$

for some real $\lambda \geq 0$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

What happens for this objective, if $\lambda \rightarrow 0$?

$$F_\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \|z\|_1 = \begin{cases} \|z\|_1 & \text{if } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y} \\ +\infty & \text{if } \mathbf{A}z \neq \mathbf{y} \end{cases}$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y}$$

So, if the solution of basis pursuit has a finite ℓ_1 -norm, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \min F_\lambda(\mathbf{z}) \right\} &= \min \{ \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y} \} \cup \{+\infty\} \\ &= \{ \min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y} \} \end{aligned}$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

Basis Pursuit

$$\min \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}z = \mathbf{y}$$

We could in fact recover the basis pursuit solution by

Basis Pursuit Denoising

$$\min \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}z - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|z\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

From Denoising to Pure Basis Pursuit

Let \mathbf{x}^* and $\mathbf{x}(\lambda)$ be defined as

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \operatorname{argmin} \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \operatorname{argmin} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Az} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{z}\|_1$$

Then, if \mathbf{x}^* is the unique solution, we have

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \mathbf{x}^*$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

Before, we start with the proof, remember that

\mathbf{x}^* is the solution of basis pursuit

*So, for any solution \mathbf{x} of the **underdetermined** equation, i.e.,*

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{y}$$

We have

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \geq \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

First of all, since \mathbf{x}^ is the basis pursuit solution, we have*

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{y}$$

This means that

$$\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2}_0 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1 = \lambda \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

If we define

$$G_{\lambda}(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{z}\|_1$$

Our conclusion simply says that

$$G_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \lambda \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

Secondly, we know that

$\mathbf{x}(\lambda)$ is the minimizer of $G_\lambda(\mathbf{z})$

This means that for any \mathbf{z}

$$G_\lambda(\mathbf{x}(\lambda)) \leq G_\lambda(\mathbf{z})$$

This is also true for $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x}^$, i.e., $G_\lambda(\mathbf{x}(\lambda)) \leq G_\lambda(\mathbf{x}^*)$ or*

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \leq \lambda \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

Noting that

$\|\mathbf{Ax}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2$, $\lambda\|\mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1$ and $\lambda\|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$ are non-negative

We can conclude out of the last inequality that

$$\lambda\|\mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \leq \lambda\|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1 \rightsquigarrow \|\mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \lambda\|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

We know at the moment that

$$\|\mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

which is also true if $\lambda \rightarrow 0$. Now, remember that

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \lambda \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

If we send $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, we conclude that

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq 0 \rightsquigarrow \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 = 0$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

The identity

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 = 0$$

means that if $\mathbf{x}(\lambda)$ converges as $\lambda \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$\mathbf{A} \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \mathbf{y}$$

In other words,

$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda)$ *is a solution of the* **underdetermined** *equation*

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

Well, we could say that

$$\|\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \geq \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Put it beside the fact that

$$\|\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

We need to have

$$\|\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda)\|_1 = \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1$$

Basis Pursuit Denoising

How can we show this equivalency?

The *uniqueness* of \mathbf{x}^* finally concludes that

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \mathbf{x}^*$$

Attention!

- Again, you can think of $\lambda \neq 0$ in *noisy* settings
- This alternative form is a key form, we use for implementation

LASSO

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

$$\min \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|\mathbf{Az} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta$$

*Assume that we have the unique solution \mathbf{x}^**

Assume that \mathcal{Z} is the following set

$$\mathcal{Z} = \left\{ \text{all } \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^N : \|\mathbf{Az} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta \right\}$$

LASSO

Basis Pursuit with Quadratic Constraint

$$\min \|z\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \|Az - y\|_2^2 \leq \eta$$

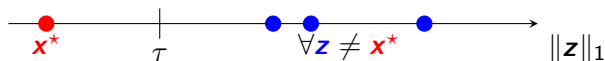
*Assume that we have the unique solution x^**

We thus have

$$x^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} \|z\|_1$$

LASSO

What happens if we plot the ℓ_1 -norm of all $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{Z}$?



- \mathbf{x}^* is the unique solution
- \mathbf{z} are all other points in \mathcal{Z}

We could now think of one τ , for which

$$\|\mathbf{x}^*\|_1 \leq \tau$$

$$\|\mathbf{z}\|_1 > \tau$$

LASSO

We could hence say,

$$\{\mathbf{x}^*\} = \mathcal{Z} \cap \{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\}$$

What about the other points $\mathbf{z} \neq \mathbf{x}^*$ in $\{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\}$?

Well, since \mathbf{x}^* is the unique solution, we have

$$\forall \{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\} \ni \mathbf{z} \neq \mathbf{x}^* : \mathbf{z} \notin \mathcal{Z}$$

This means

$$\forall \{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\} \ni \mathbf{z} \neq \mathbf{x}^* : \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 > \eta$$

LASSO

So, we could break $\{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\}$ into two cases

$$\{\text{all } \mathbf{z} : \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau\} : \begin{cases} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 > \eta & \mathbf{z} \neq \mathbf{x}^* \\ \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \leq \eta & \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x}^* \end{cases}$$

This means that

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \operatorname{argmin} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \text{ subject to } \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau$$

This was discovered by Robert Tibshirani in 1996 under the name
Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO)

LASSO

LASSO

$$\min \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \tau$$

Attention!

- *The value of τ is determined in terms of η*
- *LASSO is the oldest ℓ_1 -norm minimization technique*

Implementing Basis Pursuit Algorithm

Section 2: The Homotopy Method

Homotopy in Nutshell

Remember that we can perform basis pursuit by denoising as

$$\mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \operatorname{argmin} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{z}\|_1$$

and then taking the limit $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

The homotopy method uses this property

- *It first finds $\lambda^{(0)}$ such that $\mathbf{x}(\lambda^{(0)}) = \mathbf{0}$*
- *It then step by step updates $\mathbf{x}(\lambda^{(t)})$ till it gets to $\lambda^{(t)} = 0$*

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

Noting that the function

$$G_{\lambda}(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{z}\|_1$$

is *convex*, we can find its minimizer by checking the *extreme points*

Let $\mathbf{x}(\lambda)$ be an *extreme point*; then, we find for $n \in \{1, \dots, N\}$

$$[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}]_n + \lambda \text{Sgn}(x_n(\lambda)) = 0 \quad \forall n : x_n(\lambda) \neq 0$$

$$|[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}]_n| \leq \lambda \quad \forall n : x_n(\lambda) = 0$$

$[\mathbf{a}]_n$ is the *n-th entry* of \mathbf{a} and $\text{Sgn}(x)$ is the *sign* of x

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

To have $\mathbf{x}(\lambda^{(0)}) = \mathbf{0}$, we need to choose $\lambda^{(0)}$, such that

$$\left| \left[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\lambda^{(0)}) - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \right]_n \right| \leq \lambda^{(0)} \rightsquigarrow \left| \left[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \right]_n \right| \leq \lambda^{(0)}$$

for all $n \in \{1, \dots, N\}$. One good choice is

$$\lambda^{(0)} = \left| \left[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \right]_{n_1} \right|$$

where n_1 is

$$n_1 = \operatorname{argmax}_n \left| \left[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \right]_n \right|$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

Let us now initiate our algorithm

We start at point $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \mathbf{0}$, and set

$$\lambda^{(0)} = \max_n \left| \left[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \right]_n \right|$$

For compactness, we further define the residual in iteration t

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \mathbf{A}^T \left(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{y} \right)$$

For instance at $t = 0$, we have $\mathbf{r}^{(0)} = -\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

So, we could say

We start at point $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \mathbf{0}$, and set

$$\lambda^{(0)} = \max_n |r_n^{(0)}|$$

and denote the index of largest residual element with n_1

where we consider

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1^{(t)} \\ \vdots \\ r_N^{(t)} \end{bmatrix}$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

Remember the extreme point equations

$$[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}]_n + \lambda \text{Sgn}(x_n(\lambda)) = 0 \quad \forall n : x_n(\lambda) \neq 0$$

$$|[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}]_n| \leq \lambda \quad \forall n : x_n(\lambda) = 0$$

Note that at iteration t with $\lambda^{(t)}$ and $\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}(\lambda^{(t)})$, we have

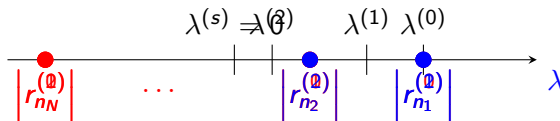
$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{y})$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

So, in iteration t the equations read

$$\begin{aligned} r_n^{(t)} + \lambda^{(t)} \text{Sgn}(x_n^{(t)}) &= 0 & \forall n : x_n^{(t)} \neq 0 \\ |r_n^{(t)}| &\leq \lambda^{(t)} & \forall n : x_n^{(t)} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

How does it look like? $x_n = 0 \forall n$, but $n = n_1, n_2, \dots, n_s$



The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

$\mathbf{d}^{(1)}$ is a 1-sparse vector whose non-zero element is at n_1

$$d_{n_1}^{(1)} = -\frac{\text{Sgn}\left(r_{n_1}^{(0)}\right)}{\mathbf{a}_{n_1}^\top \mathbf{a}_{n_1}}$$

with \mathbf{a}_{n_1} being the n_1 -th column of \mathbf{A}

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

One could check that for any $0 < \beta^{(1)} \leq \lambda^{(0)}$ we have

$$r_{n_1}^{(1)} + \lambda^{(1)} \text{Sgn} \left(x_{n_1}^{(1)} \right) = 0$$

So, $x_{n_1}^{(1)} \neq 0$

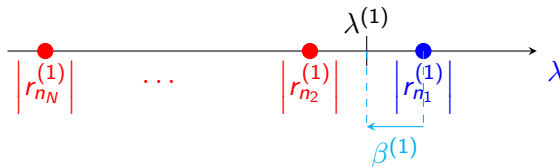
The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

But we want to keep the others elements zero! So, we bound $\beta^{(1)}$



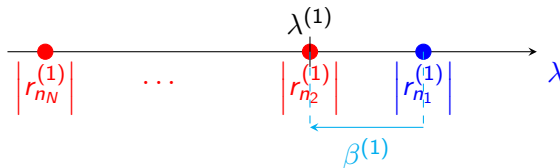
The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

We try to find the largest possible choice



The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

One can verify that the largest choice of $\beta^{(1)}$ is

$$\beta^{(1)} = \min \bigcup_{n \neq n_1} \text{Sub}^+ \left\{ \frac{\lambda^{(0)} + r_n^{(0)}}{1 - [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}]_n}, \frac{\lambda^{(0)} - r_n^{(0)}}{1 + [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}]_n} \right\}$$

with $\text{Sub}^+ \{\cdot\}$ calculating the subset positive elements

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

The residual is then updated as

$$\mathbf{r}^{(1)} = \mathbf{A}^T \left(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^{(1)} - \mathbf{y} \right)$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We now want to move in a *direction* which leads to $\lambda \rightarrow 0$

We set $\lambda^{(1)} = \lambda^{(0)} - \beta^{(1)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)} + \beta^{(1)} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}$$

We now update the support $\mathcal{S}^{(2)} = \{n_1, n_2\}$ with

$$n_2 = \operatorname{argmin} \bigcup_{n \neq n_1} \operatorname{Sub}^+ \left\{ \frac{\lambda^{(0)} + r_n^{(0)}}{1 - [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}]_n}, \frac{\lambda^{(0)} - r_n^{(0)}}{1 + [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(1)}]_n} \right\}$$

and exclude it in step 2

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

We have a $|\mathcal{S}^{(t)}|$ -sparse *path* $\mathbf{d}^{(t)}$ with non-zero elements

$$\mathbf{z} = - \left(\mathbf{A}_{\mathcal{S}^{(t)}}^\top \mathbf{A}_{\mathcal{S}^{(t)}} \right)^{-1} \text{Sgn} \left(\mathbf{r}_{\mathcal{S}^{(t)}}^{(t)} \right)$$

This means that we set $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}^{(t)}}^{(t)} = \mathbf{z}$ and the other entries of $\mathbf{d}^{(t)}$ zero

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

We now find the largest choice of $\beta^{(t)}$ which is

$$\beta_+^{(t)} = \min \bigcup_{n \notin \mathcal{S}^{(t)}} \text{Sub}^+ \left\{ \frac{\lambda^{(t-1)} + r_n^{(t-1)}}{1 - [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}]_n}, \frac{\lambda^{(t-1)} - r_n^{(t-1)}}{1 + [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}]_n} \right\}$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

This means that the next non-zero entry holds at

$$n_{t+1}^+ = \operatorname{argmin} \bigcup_{n \notin \mathcal{S}^{(t)}} \operatorname{Sub}^+ \left\{ \frac{\lambda^{(t-1)} + r_n^{(t-1)}}{1 - [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}]_n}, \frac{\lambda^{(t-1)} - r_n^{(t-1)}}{1 + [\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}]_n} \right\}$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at iteration $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

But remember that the residual gets updated in each step

It might be also the case that we get rid of one non-zero entry

So, we should also check this!

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

This happen if step-size

$$\beta_{-}^{(t)} = \min \bigcup_{n \in S^{(t)}: \mathbf{d}_n^{(t)} \neq 0} \text{Sub}^+ \left\{ -\frac{x_n^{(t-1)}}{\mathbf{d}_n^{(t)}} \right\}$$

exists and is smaller than $\beta_{+}^{(t)}$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

Could it be the case that $\beta_{-}^{(t)}$ *does not exist*?

Yes! If

$$\forall n \in \mathcal{S}^{(t)} : \mathbf{d}_n^{(t)} \neq 0 : -\frac{x_n^{(t-1)}}{\mathbf{d}_n^{(t)}} < 0$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

If this happens, we should get rid of the entry at

$$n_{t+1}^- = \operatorname{argmin} \bigcup_{n \in S^{(t)}: d_n^{(t)} \neq 0} \operatorname{Sub}^+ \left\{ -\frac{x_n^{(t-1)}}{d_n^{(t)}} \right\}$$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

How should we choose $\beta^{(t)}$?

If $\beta_-^{(t)}$ exists and $\beta_-^{(t)} < \beta_+^{(t)}$; then,

- We set $\beta^{(t)} = \beta_-^{(t)}$
- We update $\mathcal{S}^{(t+1)} = \mathcal{S}^{(t)} - \{\mathbf{n}_{t+1}^-\}$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at *iteration* $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

How should we choose $\beta^{(t)}$?

Otherwise ...

- We set $\beta^{(t)} = \beta_+^{(t)}$
- We update $\mathcal{S}^{(t+1)} = \mathcal{S}^{(t)} \cup \{\mathbf{n}_{t+1}^+\}$

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We are at iteration $t \geq 1$

We set $\lambda^{(t)} = \lambda^{(t-1)} - \beta^{(t)}$ and update $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ as

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + \beta^{(t)} \mathbf{d}^{(t)}$$

We finally update the residual as

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \mathbf{A}^T \left(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{y} \right)$$

and use it together with $\mathcal{S}^{(t+1)}$ in the next step

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We stop at iteration s

At iteration s , we should see

$$\lambda^{(s)} = 0$$

Attention!

There might be the case that n_{t+1}^+ and n_{t+1}^- are not unique!

- *In this case, some extra searches should be performed*
- *If interested, check the textbook: Page 480, Remark 15.3*

The Homotopy Method: *Derivation*

We keep repeating this strategy: We stop at iteration s

At iteration s , we should see

$$\lambda^{(s)} = 0$$

Side Note

*Why we call it the **homotopy** method? Because*

*$\mathbf{d}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{d}^{(s)}$ describes a **homotopy** path from $\mathbf{0}$ to \mathbf{x}^**

where \mathbf{x}^ is the basis pursuit solution*

Final Points

Summary

- ℓ_1 -norm minimization gives
 - Best* relaxation of the optimal recovery
- ℓ_1 -norm minimization recovers a sparse signal whose
 - $\#$ of non-zero entries \leq $\#$ of samples
- ℓ_1 -norm minimization has various forms
 - Basis pursuit
 - Basis pursuit with quadratic constraint
 - Basis pursuit denoising
 - LASSO
- We know how to implement it via the *homotopy* method

What We Learn Next?

For some applications,

ℓ_1 -norm minimization is still computationally complex

what we can do in such applications?

We could go for *much lighter* approaches

- Greedy algorithms
- Thresholding algorithms

We are going to learn them in the next part

Which Parts of Textbooks?

We are over with this part

I would suggest to go over the textbook

*A Mathematical Introduction to Compressive Sensing
S. Foucart and H. Rauhut, Book, 2013*

and study the following parts:

- *Chapter 3: Sections 3.1 and Chapter 15*